

Twin Lakes TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE CORPORATION CENTER

"OWNED BY THOSE IT SERVES"

P O BOX 67 TELEPHONE 931-268-2151

Gainesboro, Tennessee 38562

MANGER MONTGOMERY, PRESIDENT
KENNETH D PITTMAN, VICE PRESIDENT
DOUGLAS G ELDER, SECRETARY,
T ROBERT D'DUDNEY! MANAGER,

September 12, 2005

Chairman Pat Miller c/o Sharla Dillon, Docket Manager Tennessee Regulatory Authority 460 James Robertson Parkway Nashville, Tennessee 37243

Dear Chairman Mıller:

In re: Docket No. 03-00585

"Interconnection Agreement" by and between
Twin Lakes Telephone Cooperative Corporation

and Nextel South Corp.

Transmitted herewith for inclusion in the above-referenced docket file, and for review and approval by the Tennessee Regulatory Authority, are an original and 13 copies of an "Interconnection Agreement" for interconnection and reciprocal compensation by and between Twin Lakes Telephone Cooperative Corporation and Nextel South Corp..

Also enclosed is an additional copy of the Interconnection Agreement and cover letter which I would appreciate your stamping as "filed" and returning to me in the enclosed return envelope

A check in the amount of \$50.00 made payable to the Tennessee Regulatory Authority is enclosed as payment of the filing fee.

If any questions arise with regard to this filing you may contact me.

Very truly yours,

TWIN LAKES TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE

CORPORATION

Robert D. Dudney, General Manager

RDD/ef

Enclosures (15)

WIRELESS INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN

TWIN LAKES TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE CORPORATION

AND

NEXTEL SOUTH CORP.

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INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT

THIS INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT ("Agreement") is made by and between Twin Lakes Telephone Cooperative Corporation ("Twin Lakes" or "LEC"), a Tennessee corporation, and Nextel South Corp, a Georgia corporation, ("WSP" or Wireless Service Provider") and shall be deemed effective as of Laguet_15, (the "Effective Date") 2005. This Agreement may refer to either LEC or WSP or both as a "Party" or "Parties."

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, LEC is entitled to maintain it is a rural telephone company authorized to provide telecommunications services in the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, WSP is a Commercial Mobile Radio Service ("CMRS") provider licensed by the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") to provide CMRS service in the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the Parties intend for this Agreement to establish terms to interconnect their facilities and exchange telecommunications traffic for the purposes of fulfilling their obligations pursuant to sections 251 and 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, subject to Commission approval of this Agreement between the Parties; and

WHEREAS, the Parties agree that by entering into this Agreement that neither Party is waiving any claim, right or argument it may choose to make during negotiations or subsequent legal actions, if any

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual agreements contained herein, LEC and WSP agree as follows:

I. Definitions. Certain terms used in this Agreement shall have the meanings as defined below. Other terms used but not defined herein will have the meanings ascribed to them in the Act or in the Rules and Regulations of the FCC or the applicable state commission. The Parties acknowledge that other terms appear in this Agreement which are not defined or ascribed as stated above. The Parties agree that any such terms shall be construed in accordance with their customary usage in the telecommunications industry as of the Effective Date of this Agreement.

- A. Act means the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, including the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-104 of the United States Congress effective February 8, 1996).
- **B. Commission** is defined as the Tennessee Regulatory Authority.
- **C.** Effective Date is the date stated in the Pre-amble above.
- **D. Indirect Traffic** means traffic which is originated by one Party and terminated to the other Party in which a third-party carrier provides an intermediary transmission service.
- **E. InterMTA Traffic** means telecommunications traffic between a LEC and a CMRS provider that, at the beginning of the call, originates in one Major Trading Area but terminates in a different Major Trading Area.
- **F. Local Traffic** means, for purposes of reciprocal compensation under this Agreement, telecommunications traffic between the Parties that, at the beginning of the call, originates and terminates within the same MTA, as defined in 47 C.F.R 24.202, provided, however, that Local Traffic that is deemed to be originated by Twin Lakes does not include traffic that is originated through a service offering by an entity other than Twin Lakes. For purposes of determining originating and terminating points, the originating or terminating point for Twin Lakes shall be the End Office Switch serving the calling or called party, and for WSP shall be the originating or terminating cell site location which services the calling or called party at the beginning of the call.
- **G. Local Interconnection** is defined for purposes of this Agreement as the delivery of Local Traffic to be terminated on each Party's local network so that end users of either Party have the ability to reach end users of the other Party without the use of any access code or substantial delay in the processing of the call.
- H. Major Trading Area ("MTA") means Major Trading Area as designated by the FCC which is the service area based on the Rand McNally 1992 Commercial Atlas & Marketing Guide, 123rd edition, at pages 38-39, as further specified or modified by 47 C.F.R. § 24.202(a)
- I. Non-Local Traffic means all traffic that is not Local Traffic, including access services, as described in section VI of this Agreement.
- **J. Transit Traffic** means Local or non-Local traffic that originates on one Party's network, transits through the other Party's network, and terminates to a third party telecommunications carrier's network.

II. Purpose

The Parties desire to enter into this Agreement to govern the Parties' exchange of telecommunications traffic pursuant to Sections 251 and 252 of the Act.

III. Term of the Agreement

- A. Subject to the provisions of § III.B below, the initial term of this Agreement shall be for two years ("Term"), which shall commence on the Effective Date. This Agreement shall automatically renew for successive six-month periods, unless, not less than sixty (60) days prior to the end of the Term or any renewal term, either Party notifies the other Party of its intent to renegotiate a new agreement. In the event of such renegotiation, this Agreement shall remain in effect until such time that a new agreement becomes effective
- **B.** Absent Commission approval of this Agreement, and absent the receipt by one Party of written notice from the other Party at least ninety (90) days prior to the expiration of the Term to the effect that such Party intends to terminate this Agreement, this Agreement shall automatically renew and remain in full force and effect on and after the expiration of the Term
- **C.** In the event of default, either Party may terminate this Agreement in whole or in part provided that the non-defaulting Party so advises the defaulting Party in writing of the event of the alleged default and the defaulting Party does not remedy the alleged default within 60 days after written notice thereof Default is defined to include:
 - (1) Either Party's insolvency or initiation of bankruptcy or receivership proceedings by or against the Party, or
 - (2) Either Party's material breach of any of the terms or conditions hereof, including the failure to make any undisputed payment when due
- **D.** Termination of this Agreement for any cause shall not release either Party from any liability which at the time of termination has already accrued to the other Party or which thereafter may accrue in respect to any act or omission prior to termination or from any obligation which is expressly stated herein to survive termination.

IV. Intellectual Property

A. Any intellectual property that originates from or is developed by a Party shall remain in the exclusive ownership of that Party. Except for a limited license to use patents or copyrights to the extent necessary for the Parties to use any facilities or equipment (including software) or to receive any

service solely as provided under this Agreement, no license in patent, copyright, trademark, service mark or trade secret, or other proprietary or intellectual property right (collectively "Intellectual Property") now or hereafter owned, controlled or licensable by a Party, is granted to the other Party or shall be implied or arise by estoppel. It is the responsibility of LEC to ensure, at no separate or additional cost to WSP, that LEC has obtained any necessary licenses (in relation to intellectual property of third parties used in LEC's network) to the extent of LEC's own use of facilities or equipment (including software) in the provision of service to LEC's enduser customers.

V. Local Interconnection and Compensation

A. Compensation for the termination of Local Traffic shall be pursuant to Exhibit 1. This Agreement establishes terms and conditions available to each Party with respect to each Party's right to terminate traffic on the network of the other Party. This Agreement does not require either Party to utilize the termination rights established herein on an exclusive basis This Agreement does not affect the rates each Party may charge its own end users for its retail services.

B. Pursuant to the Local Traffic termination duties and obligations established by this Agreement, each Party will compensate the other, for terminating its Local Traffic on the other Party's network, the local interconnection rates as set forth in Exhibit 1. Charges for terminating traffic will be based upon accumulated conversation minutes, whole and partial, measured from receipt of answer supervision to receipt of disconnect supervision and rounded up to the next whole minute at the close of the billing period. LEC will include figures showing mobileoriginated traffic with each monthly invoice. WSP will include figures showing landline-originated traffic with each monthly invoice. Should WSP lack measurement capability, the Parties will assume that approximately 70% of the total traffic between the Parties is mobile-originated traffic terminated by LEC, as shown on Exhibit 1 attached hereto. Should either Party's traffic reports reflect a material change in the ratio of land to mobile traffic the foregoing traffic ratio will be adjusted by mutual agreement of the Parties based upon an analysis of both Party's traffic reports or upon a traffic study requested by either Party.

VI. Methods of Interconnection

A. Each party to this Agreement has the duty, pursuant to 47 U.S.C.A § 251(a), to interconnect directly with the facilities and equipment of the other party. The appropriate method of directly interconnecting facilities is through the use of interconnection trunks purchased or leased by either Party from the other Party Type 1, Type 2A and Type 2B interconnection

arrangements may be purchased or leased pursuant to this Agreement provided, however, that such interconnection arrangements shall be provided at the rates, terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement

B. The Parties will accept and provide any of the preceding methods of direct interconnection. In cases of direct interconnection, reciprocal connectivity shall be established to at least one LEC access tandem within every LATA WSP desires to serve, or WSP may elect to interconnect directly at an end office for interconnection to end users served by that end office. Such interconnecting facilities shall conform, at a minimum, to the telecommunications industry standard of DS-1 pursuant to Bellcore Standard No. TR-NWT-00499. Signal transfer point, Signaling System 7 ("SS7") connectivity is required at each interconnection point after LEC implements SS7 capability within its own network LEC will provide out-ofband signaling using Common Channel Signaling Access Capability in accordance with the technical specifications set forth in Technical Publication, TR-TSV-000905 The Parties facilities' shall provide the necessary on-hook, off-hook answer and disconnect supervision and shall hand off calling party number ID when technically feasible. In the event a Party interconnects via the purchase of facilities and/or services from the other Party, the appropriate LEC intrastate tariff, as amended from time to time will apply. In the event that such facilities are used for two-way interconnection, the appropriate recurring charges for such facilities will be shared by the Parties based upon percentages equal to the actual proportion of traffic originated by each Party on such facilities. The Parties agree to use the following percentages: LEC 30%, WSP 70%, as shown in Exhibit 1 attached hereto.

C The Parties will establish trunk groups from the interconnecting facilities of subsection (A) of this section such that each Party provides a reciprocal trunk group for each trunk group established by the other Party Notwithstanding the foregoing, each Party may construct its network, including the interconnecting facilities, to achieve optimum cost effectiveness and network efficiency. LEC's treatment of WSP as to any such charges shall be consistent with LEC'S treatment of other local exchange or CMRS carriers for the same charges. Unless otherwise agreed, LEC will provide or bear the cost of all trunk groups for the delivery of Local Traffic from LEC to WSP's Mobile Telephone Switching Offices if such WSP Mobile Telephone Switching Offices are within LEC's service territory; otherwise LEC will bear the cost of all trunk groups for the delivery of Local Traffic from LEC to the designated Point of Interconnection (POI) which shall be LEC's tandem switch at Gainesboro, Tennessee (CLLI code GNBOTNXA99T). WSP will provide or bear the cost of all trunk groups for the delivery of traffic from WSP to LEC's Gainesboro, Tennessee access tandem.

D. When an Interexchange Carrier ("IXC") is used to transport traffic between the Parties, each Party will provide its own access services to the IXC If access charges are billed, each party will bill its own access service rates to the IXC

VII. Non-Local Traffic Interconnection

A. The Parties agree that inter-MTA Traffic (i.e., traffic that is not subject to reciprocal compensation as Local Traffic), for the purposes of this Agreement and subject to true-up, constitutes one percent (1%) of the total traffic exchanged between the Parties. WSP agrees to compensate LEC for such inter-MTA Traffic as follows: On a monthly basis, of the percent of the total traffic exchanged between the Parties that is deemed to be mobile-originated, LEC will bill WSP the local interconnection rate set forth in Exhibit 1 for 99% of the mobile-originated traffic. LEC will bill WSP LEC's tariffed interstate access rate for ½ of the remaining 1% of the mobile-originated traffic, and LEC's tariffed intrastate access rate for ½ of the remaining 1% of the mobile-originated traffic. WSP will not bill LEC for any inter-MTA charges.

VIII. Billing

A Charges and Payments

- (1). In consideration of the services provided under this Agreement, the Parties shall pay the charges set forth in Exhibit I.
- (2) The Parties shall pay invoices within 45 days from the Bill Date. If the payment due date is a Saturday, Sunday or a designated bank holiday, payment shall be made the next business day Invoices shall be sent to

Nextel South Corp. Telco Cost Management 2001 Edmund Hailey Drive Reston, Virginia 20191

Twin Lakes Telephone Cooperative Corporation 201 West Gore Avenue P.O. Box 67 Gainesboro, TN 38562-0067 Attention: Robert Dudney

or such other address as the Parties may designate to one another on at least thirty (30) days prior written notice

- (3) Billed amounts which are being investigated, queried, or for which claims have been or may be filed, are not due for payment until such investigations, claims, or queries have been resolved in accordance with the provisions governing dispute resolution of this Agreement. Disputed amounts will not be paid into an escrow account. All bill disputes must be raised within 12 months of the date of issuance of the disputed bill. If the billing dispute is finally resolved in favor of the billing Party, late payment charges (pursuant to the immediately following paragraph) shall accrue from the date payment was originally due.
- (4) The Parties will assess late payment charges to each other in accordance with the applicable tariff or, if there is no tariff, the Billing Party will assess a late payment charge equal to the lesser of 1% per month or the maximum rate allowed by law per month of the balance due, until the amount due, including late payment charges, is paid in full.
- (5) All charges under this Agreement shall be billed within one year from the time the charge was incurred, previously unbilled charges more than one year old shall not be billed by either party, and shall not be payable by either party

B. Third-Party Billing

(1) The Parties acknowledge that LEC does not furnish a transiting function to connect WSP with other carriers that may be connected to LEC's facilities.

C. Exchange of Records

- (1) The Parties agree to exchange records, for billing purposes, based upon standards routinely adhered to by each Party The Parties further agree they will work toward implementing a record exchange process in accordance with industry standards.
- (2) The Parties agree to exchange test files to support implementation of billing prior to live bill production.

IX. Access to 911/E911 Emergency Network

A. WSP will route wireless-originated 911 calls to the appropriate emergency agency.

X. SS7

- **A.** Where available, LEC will provide and implement all defined and industry supported SS7 mandatory parameters as well as procedures in accordance with ANSI standards to support SS7 signaling for call setup for the interconnection trunks. To the extent LEC provides ANSI optional parameters for its own use, LEC shall provide the same to WSP for WSP's review.
- **B.** In the event SS7 facilities are not available, WSP may, at its option, obtain multifrequency signaling
- **C.** Where available, LEC agrees to provide carrier identification parameter (CIP) within WSP's SS7 call set-up signaling protocol at no charge
- **D.** LEC shall support intercompany 64 KBPS clear channel where it provides such capability to its end users
- **E.** The Parties will cooperate in the exchange of TCAP messages to facilitate full inter-operability of SS7-based features between their networks, including all CLASS features and functions, to the extent each Party offers such features and functions to its own end users.

XI. Network Design and Management

- **A.** The Parties will work cooperatively to install and maintain reliable interconnected telecommunications networks, including but not limited to, maintenance contact numbers and escalation procedures. LEC will provide written notice to WSP of changes in the information necessary for the transmission and routing of services using its local exchange facilities or networks, as well as of any other changes that would affect the interoperability of those facilities and networks.
 - (1) Each Party shall provide a 24-hour contact number for network traffic management issues to the other's surveillance management center. A fax number must also be provided to facilitate event notifications for planned mass calling events. The Parties shall agree upon appropriate network traffic management control capabilities.

Nextel National NOC.

1-888-5NEXTEL

Twin Lakes Network Operations Center:

1-931-268-0281

- (2) Each Party has the duty to alert the other to any network events that can result or have resulted in service interruption, blocked calls, or negative changes in network performance. Major failures that will be reported are defined as follows:
 - (a) Any cable or electronics outage that affects 50% or more of the in-service lines of a central office or 1,000 access lines, whichever is less with a duration of two minutes or more.
 - (b) Toll or EAS isolation of an entire exchange with a duration of two minutes or more.
 - (c) Any digital cross connect or fiber optic complete system failure lasting two minutes or more.
- **B.** The interconnection of all networks will be based upon accepted industry/national guidelines for transmission standards and traffic blocking criteria
- **C.** The Parties will work cooperatively to apply sound network management principles by invoking appropriate network management controls to alleviate or prevent network congestion.
- **D.** Neither Party intends to charge rearrangement, reconfiguration, disconnection, termination or other non-recurring fees that may be associated with the initial reconfiguration of either party's network interconnection arrangement contained in this Agreement Notwithstanding the foregoing, neither Party is limited by this Agreement in the manner in which it configures its network, and each Party shall be responsible for its own costs that may arise as a result of reconfiguration of the other Party's network.
- E. The Parties will provide Common Channel Signaling (CCS) information to one another, where available and technically feasible, in conjunction with all traffic in order to enable full interoperability of CLASS features and functions except for call return. All CCS signaling parameters will be provided, including automatic number identification (ANI), originating line information (OLI) calling party category, charge number, etc. All privacy indicators will be honored, and the Parties agree to cooperate on the

exchange of Transactional Capabilities Application Part (TCAP) messages to facilitate full interoperability of CCS-based features between the respective networks

- **F**. The Parties will provide each other with the proper call information, including all proper translations for routing between networks and any information necessary for billing
- **G.** The Parties agree to offer and provide to each other B8ZS Extended Superframe Format ("ESF") facilities, where available, capable of voice and data traffic transmission.
- **H.** Each Party is responsible for the transport of originating calls from its network to the relevant, mutually agreed upon point of interconnection, and each Party will ensure that its facilities are compatible with the mutually agreed upon transmission and facility specifications.
- I. The Parties will process any maintenance requests at parity with the manner in which each Party processes its own maintenance requests or maintenance requests or its affiliates.
- J LEC will ensure that all applicable alarm systems that support WSP customers are operational and the support databases are accurate LEC will respond to WSP customer alarms at Parity with response to alarms for its own carrier customers.
- **K**. Parties shall provide prior notification of any scheduled maintenance activity performed by the Parties that may be service affecting to the other Party.

XII. Auditing Procedures

A. Upon thirty (30) days written notice, each party must provide the other the ability and opportunity to conduct an annual audit to ensure the proper billing of traffic between the Parties. The Parties will retain records of call detail for a minimum of six months. The audit shall be accomplished during normal business hours at an office designated by the Party being audited and shall be subject to scope and duration limitations reasonable under the circumstances. Audit requests shall not be submitted more frequently than one (1) time per calendar year. Audits shall be performed by a mutually acceptable independent auditor paid for by the Party requesting the audit.

XIII. Limitation of Liability

A. Except as otherwise provided for in this paragraph, neither party shall be liable to the other party for any indirect, incidental, consequential, reliance, punitive, or special damages suffered by the other party (including without limitation damages for harm to business, lost revenues, lost savings, or lost profits suffered by the other party), regardless of the form of action, whether in contract, warranty, strict liability, or tort, including without limitation negligence of any kind whether active or passive, and regardless of whether the Parties knew of the possibility that such damages could result. In no event shall either Party's liability to the other for direct damages arising out of (1) a material breach of this Agreement, or (2) activities related to or involved in performance under this Agreement (whether such alleged damages in this second category arise in contract or tort) exceed an amount equal to the proportionate charge for the affected service(s) during the period in which damages occurred If that standard is not applicable, such damages shall not exceed the total amount billed under this Agreement (during the calendar year(s) in which the damage occurred) by the damaged Party to the other Party. The foregoing shall not limit a Party's obligation as set out in this Agreement to indemnify, defend, and hold the other Party harmless against amounts payable to third parties.

- **B.** EXCEPT AS SPECIFICALLY PROVIDED TO THE CONTRARY IN THIS AGREEMENT, NEITHER PARTY MAKES ANY REPRESENTATIONS OR WARRANTIES TO THE OTHER PARTY CONCERNING THE SPECIFIC QUALITY OF ANY SERVICES, OR FACILITIES PROVIDED UNDER THIS AGREEMENT. THE PARTIES DISCLAIM, WITHOUT LIMITATION, ANY WARRANTY OR GUARANTEE OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, ARISING FROM COURSE OF PERFORMANCE, COURSE OF DEALING, OR FROM USAGES OF TRADE
- **C.** Neither party shall be liable to the other for any act or omission of any other telecommunications company providing a portion of a service under this Agreement.

XIV. Indemnity

A. Each party shall be indemnified, defended and held harmless by the other party against any claim, loss or damage arising from the other party's negligent or grossly negligent acts or omissions under this Agreement, or arising from the other party's intentional misconduct under this Agreement, for 1) damage to tangible personal property or for personal injury proximately caused by the negligence or willful misconduct of the Indemnifying Party, its employees, agents or contractors; and

- 2) Claims for infringement of Intellectual Property arising from combining or using the service furnished by either party in connection with facilities or equipment furnished by either party or either party's customer
- **B.** The Indemnified Party will notify the Indemnifying Party promptly in writing of any claims, lawsuits, or demands by third parties for which the Indemnified Party alleges that the Indemnifying Party is responsible under this Section, and, if requested by the Indemnifying Party, will tender the defense of such claim, lawsuit or demand
 - (1) In the event the Indemnifying Party does not promptly assume or diligently pursue the defense of the tendered action, then the Indemnified Party may proceed to defend or settle said action and the Indemnifying Party shall hold harmless the Indemnified Party from any loss, cost liability, damage and expense
 - (2) In the event the Party otherwise entitled to indemnification from the other elects to decline such indemnification, then the Party making such an election may, at its own expense, assume defense and settlement of the claim, lawsuit or demand
 - (3) The Parties will cooperate in every reasonable manner with the defense or settlement of any claim, demand, or lawsuit.

XV. Modification of Agreement

- **A.** No modification, amendment, supplement to, or waiver of the Agreement or any of its provisions shall be effective and binding upon the Parties unless it is made in writing and duly signed by the Parties
- **B.** In the event that any effective legislative, regulatory, judicial or other legal action materially affects any material terms of this Agreement, or the ability of the Parties to perform any material terms of this Agreement, either Party may, on thirty (30) days' written notice, require that such terms be renegotiated, and the Parties shall renegotiate in good faith such mutually acceptable new terms as may be required. In the event that such new terms are not renegotiated within ninety (90) days after such notice, the Dispute may be referred to the Dispute Resolution procedure set forth herein
- **C.** If any provision of this Agreement shall be held invalid, the remainder of the Agreement shall remain valid. Moreover, the Parties shall attempt to reformulate such invalid provision to give effect to such portions thereof as may be valid without defeating the intent of such provision.

XVI. Taxes and Fees

A. The parties shall comply with all federal, state, and local tax laws applicable to transactions occurring under this Agreement. Each Party shall pay or otherwise be responsible for all federal, state, or local sales, use, excise, gross receipts, transaction or similar taxes, fees, or surcharges levied against or upon such Party. The Providing Party will separately state all taxable and nontaxable charges, fees, or surcharges on the original invoice for goods or services provided under this Agreement. All purchases under this agreement are for resale in the ordinary course of Purchasing Party's business. Purchasing Party shall furnish the Providing Party a proper resale tax exemption certificate or other documentation to Providing Party upon request. The parties shall cooperate with one another to minimize taxes arising from this Agreement.

XVII. Treatment of Proprietary and Confidential Information

A. It may be necessary for either Party, each as the "Discloser," to provide to the other Party, as "Recipient," certain proprietary and confidential information (including trade secret information) including but not limited to technical, financial, marketing, staffing and business plans information, strategic information, proposals, request for proposals, specifications, drawings, maps, prices, costs, costing methodologies. procedures, processes, business systems, software techniques, customer account data, call detail records and like information (collectively the "Confidential Information"). Nothing in this Agreement shall be deemed proprietary. All such Confidential Information conveyed in writing or other tangible form shall be clearly marked with a confidential or proprietary legend. Confidential Information conveyed orally by the Discloser to Recipient shall be designated as proprietary and confidential at the time of such oral conveyance, shall be reduced to writing by the Discloser within forty-five (45) days thereafter, and shall be clearly marked with a confidential or proprietary legend. Notwithstanding the above, the following information will be deemed Confidential Information, whether or not marked as such: oral or written negotiation, orders for services, usage information in any form and Customer Proprietary Network Information as that term is defined in the Act and rules and regulations of the FCC.

B. Use and Protection of Confidential Information. Commencing on the Effective Date and continuing during and after the termination or expiration of this Agreement, each Party shall be fully responsible for any unauthorized use and disclosure of, or access to, the other Party's Confidential Information. Accordingly, each Party shall employ administrative, physical, and technical safeguards that prevent such unauthorized access, disclosure, and use ("Safeguards"). Without limiting the foregoing, each Party shall at a minimum employ best industry

practice and implement Safeguards to protect the other Party's Confidential Information, whether "at rest" or in transit. Recipient agrees to protect such Confidential Information of the Discloser provided to Recipient from whatever source from distribution, disclosure or dissemination to anyone except employees of Recipient with a need to know such Confidential Information solely in conjunction with Recipient's analysis of the Confidential Information and for no other purpose except as authorized herein or as otherwise authorized in writing by the Discloser. Recipient will not make any copies of the Confidential Information inspected by it.

- C. Exceptions. Recipient will not have an obligation to protect any portion of the Confidential Information which: (a) is made publicly available by the Discloser or lawfully by a nonparty to this Agreement; or (b) is lawfully obtained by Recipient from any source other than Discloser; or (c) is previously known to Recipient without an obligation to keep it confidential; or (d) is released from the terms of this Agreement by Discloser upon written notice to Recipient, or (e) is disclosed pursuant to a valid order of court or regulatory body, provided the recipient gives the Discloser prior written notice of such order unless prohibited from doing so by court order or governmental authority
- **D.** Recipient agrees to use the Confidential Information solely for the purposes of negotiations pursuant to 47 U.S.C. 251 or in performing its obligations under this Agreement and for no other entity or purpose, except as may be otherwise agreed to in writing by the Parties Nothing herein shall prohibit Recipient from providing information requested by the Federal Communications Commission or a state regulatory agency with jurisdiction over this matter, or to support a request for arbitration or an allegation of failure to negotiate in good faith.
- **E.** Recipient agrees not to publish or use the Confidential Information for any advertising, sales promotions, press releases, or publicity matters that refer either directly or indirectly to the Confidential Information or to the Discloser or any of its affiliated companies.
- **F.** The disclosure of Confidential Information neither grants nor implies any license to the Recipient under any trademark, patent, copyright, or application which is now or may hereafter be owned by the Discloser.
- **G.** All Confidential Information shall remain the property of the Discloser, and all documents or other tangible media delivered to the Recipient that embody such Confidential Information shall be, at the option of the Discloser, either promptly returned to Discloser or destroyed using appropriate and reasonable means, except as otherwise may be required from time to time by Applicable Law (in which case the use and disclosure

of such Confidential Information will continue to be subject to this Agreement), upon the earlier of (i) the date on which the Recipient's need for it has expired and (ii) the expiration or termination of this Agreement

- H. The Parties agree that an impending or existing violation of any provision of this Section would cause the Discloser irreparable injury for which it would have no adequate remedy at law, and agree that Discloser shall be entitled to obtain immediate injunctive relief prohibiting such violation, in addition to any other rights and remedies available to it at law or in equity, including both specific performance and monetary damages in the event of any breach of this Section for which legal or equitable relief is sought, all reasonable attorney's fees and other reasonable costs associated therewith shall be recoverable by the prevailing Party.
- I. Survival of Confidentiality Obligations. The Parties' rights and obligations under this Section 10 shall survive and continue in effect until two (2) years after the expiration or termination date of this Agreement with regard to all Confidential Information exchanged during the term of this Agreement.

XVIII. Resolution of Disputes

A. If a dispute arises under this Agreement, including disputes relating to any portion of an amount due to a Party, the Disputing Party shall give written notice of the dispute to the other Party If the Parties are unable to resolve the issues within 30 days after delivery of Notice, each of the Parties shall appoint a designated representative who has authority to settle the dispute and who is at a higher level of management than the persons with direct responsibility for administration of this Agreement. The designated representatives shall meet as often as they reasonably deem necessary in order to discuss the dispute and negotiate in good faith in an effort to resolve such dispute. The specific format for such discussions will be left to the discretion of the designated representatives, provided, however, that all reasonable requests for relevant information made by one Party to the other Party shall be honored. Upon agreement, the representatives may utilize other alternative dispute resolution procedures such as a mutually acceptable mediator to assist in the negotiations. Discussions and correspondence among the representatives for purposes of these negotiations shall be treated as Confidential Information developed for purposes of settlement, exempt from discovery, and shall not be admissible in the arbitration described below or in any lawsuit without the concurrence of all Parties.

B. If the Parties are unable to resolve the dispute within 90 days after the Parties' appointment of designated representatives, then either Party may bring the formal dispute to either the American Arbitration Association ("AAA"), the Commission, or the Federal Communications Commission to

resolve such issues. The arbitrator shall not have authority to award punitive damages. Each Party shall bear its own costs and attorneys' fees, and shall share equally in the fees and expenses of the arbitrator. Arbitration proceedings shall occur in a mutually agreed upon location. Moreover, each party reserves the right to seek judicial review of any ruling made by the Commission or the Federal Communications Commission concerning this Agreement. The Parties shall continue providing services to each other during the pendency of any dispute resolution procedure, and the Parties shall continue to perform their payment obligations including making payments in accordance with this Agreement.

XIX. Waivers

A. Any failure by either party to insist upon the strict performance by the other party of any of the provisions of this Agreement shall not be deemed a waiver of any of the provisions of this Agreement, and each party, notwithstanding such failure, shall have the right thereafter to insist upon the specific performance of any and all of the provisions of this Agreement

B. By entering into this Agreement, neither Party is waiving any argument it may choose to make in a subsequent arbitration between the Parties arising out of formal interconnection negotiations. By way of example and not limitation, by agreeing herein to a reciprocal compensation rate of \$.0.015 per minute of use and a traffic ratio of 70 % (wireless originated) to 30% (landline originated), neither Party is waiving its right to argue that the reciprocal compensation rate should be higher or lower, that "bill-and-keep" principles should apply, that the traffic ratio should be different, or that the telecommunications traffic exchanged between the Parties is roughly balanced

XX. Assignment

Other than to an affiliate or to an entity acquiring all or substantially all of the assets of a Party, neither Party may assign any of its rights or delegate any of its obligations under this Agreement without the prior written consent of the other party, which will not be unreasonably withheld. Notice of assignment must be given in advance of the proposed assignment.

XXI. Amendment

This Agreement may not be amended in any way except upon written consent of the Parties.

XXII. Severability

In the event that any provision of this Agreement shall be held invalid, illegal, or unenforceable, it shall be severed from the Agreement and the remainder of this Agreement shall remain valid and enforceable and shall continue in full force and effect; provided however, that if any severed provisions of this Agreement are essential to any party's ability to continue to perform its material obligations hereunder, the Parties shall immediately begin negotiations of new provisions to replace the severed provisions

XXIII. Survival

Any liabilities or obligations of a party for acts or omissions prior to the cancellation or termination of this Agreement, any obligation of a party under the provisions regarding indemnification, confidential information, limitations of liability and any other provisions of this Agreement which, by their terms, are contemplated to survive (or be performed after) termination of this Agreement, shall survive cancellation or termination thereof.

XXIV. Governing Law

For all claims under this Agreement that are based upon issues governed by state law, this Agreement shall be governed by, and construed and enforced in accordance with, the laws of the state of Tennessee For all claims under this Agreement that are based upon issues within the jurisdiction of the FCC or governed by federal law, the parties agree that remedies for such claims shall be governed by the FCC and the Act.

XXV. Arm's Length Negotiations

This Agreement was executed after arm's length negotiations between the undersigned Parties and reflects the conclusion of the undersigned that this Agreement is in the best interests of all Parties.

XXVI. Filing of Agreement

A. The Parties shall file this Agreement with the Commission and, if required, the FCC with a joint request for approval as of the Effective Date

XXVII. Notices

A. Every notice, consent, approval, or other communications required or contemplated by this Agreement shall be in writing, delivered by certified or registered mail

B. All notices, consents, approvals or other communications required or contemplated by this Agreement shall be made to the following addresses.

Local Exchange Carrier

Wireless Service Provider

Twin Lakes Telephone Cooperative Corp P.O. Box 67 Gainesboro, TN 38562-0067 Nextel South Corp. 2001 Edmund Hailey Dr. Reston, VA 20191

Attention Robert Dudney

Attention: Bob Edgerly

or at such other address as the intended recipient previously shall have designated by written notice to the other party

C. Notice by mail shall be effective on the date it is officially recorded as delivered by return receipt or equivalent

XXVIII. Relationship of Parties

It is the intention of the Parties that each shall be an independent contractor and nothing contained herein shall constitute the Parties as joint venturers, partners, employees or agents of one another, and neither Party shall have the right or power to bind or obligate the other.

XXIX. No Third Party Beneficiaries

The provisions of this Agreement are for the benefit of the Parties hereto and not for any other person, and this Agreement shall not provide any person not a Party hereto with any remedy, claim, liability, reimbursement, right of action, or other right in excess of those existing without reference hereto. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to prevent WSP from providing services to or obtaining services from other carriers

XXX. Force Majeure

Neither Party shall be held liable for any delay or failure in performance of any part of this Agreement from any cause beyond its reasonable control and without its fault or negligence, such as acts of God, acts of civil or military authority, embargoes, epidemics, war, terrorist acts, riots, insurrections, fires, explosions, earthquakes, nuclear accidents, floods, power blackouts, strikes, work stoppage affecting a supplier or unusually severe weather. No delay or other failure to perform shall be excused pursuant to this Section. In the event of any such excused delay in the performance of a Party's obligation(s) under this Agreement, the due date for the performance of the original obligation(s) shall be extended by a term equal to the time lost by reason of the delay. In the event of such delay, the delayed Party shall perform its obligations at a performance level no less than that which it uses for its own operations. In the event of such performance delay or failure by LEC, LEC agrees to resume performance in a nondiscriminatory manner and not favor its own provision of telecommunications services above that of WSP

XXXI. Restoration of Service In The Event Of Outages

- **A.** The Parties shall perform restoration of services in the event of outages due to equipment failures, human error, fire, natural disaster, acts of God, or similar occurrences at Parity All service shall be restored as expeditiously as practicable and in a non-discriminatory manner.
- **B.** The Parties will provide each other with a Single Point of Contact, available twenty-four hours per day, seven days a week, for all maintenance and service problem communications.
- **C.** The Parties will establish an escalation procedure for dealing with maintenance and service problem issues
- **D.** The Parties agree that, in cases of service outage or other service problems, WSP shall receive the highest priority in accordance with the rules and regulations of any regulatory agency having jurisdiction over LEC

XXXII. Service Projections

The Parties will provide non-binding two-year intercompany forecasts for traffic utilization over trunk groups. These forecasts shall be updated semi-annually or at other standard intervals as mutually agreed to by both Parties.

XXXIII. Quality of Service

A. Interconnection quality of service shall be at Parity with that provided by LEC for its own services

- **B.** A blocking standard of 1% during the average busy hour shall be maintained for all local interconnection facilities
- **C.** The Parties shall negotiate a process to expedite network augmentations and other orders when initiated by the other Party
- **D.** The Parties will mutually develop operating statistical process measurements to ensure that a negotiated service quality level is maintained. Such statistics will be exchanged under an agreed upon schedule.

XXXIV. Entire Agreement

This Agreement and its Exhibit, incorporated herein by this reference, set forth the entire understanding between the Parties relating to the subject matter contained herein and merge all prior discussions between them, and neither party shall be bound by any definition, condition, provision, representation, warranty, covenant or promise other than as expressly stated in this Agreement. In the event of any conflict between the term(s) of this Agreement and those of an applicable tariff, the terms of this Agreement shall control

Nextel South Corp.	Twin LakesTelephone
	Cooperative Corporation
By: Sal Elyl	By Dan Maty
Bib Edgele	FRMES R. MONTGOMERY
Name // /	Wame '/
Dr. Manyer, Intercurret	PRESIDENT
Title J./9 15, 2005	Title 08/15/2005
Date /	Date

EXHIBIT 1

The following are specific percentages and compensation rates agreed to by the Parties:

- 1. Local interconnection rate for termination of local traffic (Paragraph V-B):
- \$. 0 015 per MOU (Minute of Use).
- 2 70% of the total traffic between the Parties is mobile-originated traffic terminated by LEC (Paragraph V-B).
- 3 InterMTA traffic percentage 1%
- 4. Operating Company Numbers (OCNs):

WSP's OCNs are: 6232 & 553A

LEC's OCN is: 0579